

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Atty Dkt. 2551-28

LOCARNINI et al

C# M#

Serial No. 09/306,420

Group Art Unit: 1648

Filed: May 6, 1999

Examiner: Mosher, M.

Date: October 9, 2001

Title: VIRAL VARIANTS AND METHODS FOR DETECTING SAME

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED

OCT 12 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

**RESPONSE/AMENDMENT/LETTER**

This is a response/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes an attachment which is hereby incorporated by reference and the signature below serves as the signature to the attachment in the absence of any other signature thereon.

**Fees are attached as calculated below:**

Total effective claims after amendment 28 minus highest number  
previously paid for 43 (at least 20) = 0 x \$ 18.00 \$ 0.00

Independent claims after amendment 8 minus highest number  
previously paid for 13 (at least 3) = 0 x \$ 84.00 \$ 0.00

If proper multiple dependent claims now added for first time, add \$280.00 (ignore improper) \$ 0.00

Petition is hereby made to extend the current due date so as to cover the filing date of this  
paper and attachment(s) (\$110.00/1 month; \$400.00/2 months; \$920.00/3 months) \$ 920.00

Terminal disclaimer enclosed, add \$ 110.00 \$ 0.00

☐ First/second submission after Final Rejection pursuant to 37 CFR 1.129(a) (\$740.00) \$ 0.00  
☐ Please enter the previously unentered, filed  
☐ Submission attached

**Subtotal \$ 920.00**

If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract -\$ 0.00  
☐ Applicant claims "small entity" status. ☐ Statement filed herewith

Rule 56 Information Disclosure Statement Filing Fee (\$180.00) \$ 0.00

Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00) \$ 0.00

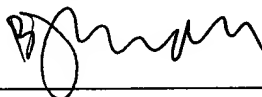
Other: Certified Copy of Priority Document; Copy of Sells article 0.00

**TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED \$ 920.00**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

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By Atty: B. J. Sadoff, Reg. No. 36,663

Signature: 

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Atty. Ref.: 2551-28

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#20  
Ext. (3 mos.)  
Amendments  
10/15/01

October 9, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

Responsive to the Official Action dated April 9, 2001, entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks are requested; the period for response having been extended up to and including October 9, 2001, by submission of the requisite petition and fee, attached.

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend the claims as follows:

Cancel claims 1-31, without prejudice.

Add the following claims:

--32. (new). An isolated HBV mutant comprising a nucleotide mutation in a gene encoding a DNA polymerase or part thereof, resulting in at least one amino acid addition, substitution and/or deletion in the part of said DNA polymerase consisting

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